

A NEW GENUS OF AGROMYZIDÆ (DIPTERA).

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The species described herein has been in my possession for four years, but I have delayed publication of the description as it was my intention to publish at the same time a key to the species of the genus *Agromyza* which have the knobs of the halteres black and the costa continued to apex of fourth vein. An examination of the specimens discloses the fact that the species may properly be removed to another genus and I therefore describe it as the type of a new genus.

The species of *Agromyza* with black halteres have recently been removed from *Agromyza* by Hendel. Those with a median facial keel are placed in *Ophiomyia* Braschnikow, with the genotype *curvipalpis* Zett., and those without a facial keel in *Melanagromyza* Hendel, with the genotype *æneiventris* Fallen. From both of these genera the one now described may be separated by its hairy frontal lunule.

It may be pertinent to note here that Hendel has indicated that *burgessi* Malloch is in his opinion a synonym of *æneiventris*. This is not so, but it is not at all improbable that *virens* Loew is as it runs down to *æneiventris* in Hendel's key while *burgessi* does not.

• *Limnoagromyza* gen. n.

Generic characters: Similar to *Melanagromyza* Hendel, with black halteres and no presutural dorsocentral. The eyes are bare in both sexes, and there are some microscopic hairs on the frontal lunule which I have not seen in any other species of the old genus *Agromyza*.

Genotype, the following species.

Limnoagromyza diantheræ sp. n.

Male and female.—Glossy black. Interfrontalia opaque black; orbits, lunule, and face slightly pruinulent. Dorsum of thorax and abdomen with a slight bluish or greenish metallic tinge. Legs entirely black. Wings slightly suffused with brown, veins dark brown and conspicuous. Halteres black. Calyptre and their fringes white. Ocelli in an almost equilateral triangle, the bristles long; each orbit with 4 or 5 bristles and, laterad of these, with dense short hairs which are not

directed forward; ocellar triangle not extending beyond middle of frons; lunule almost transverse above, of moderate size; face shining in center, and with a slight median keel which separates antennæ at base; arista thickened at base, microscopically pubescent; vibrissal angle not produced; face receding below; cheek higher than width of third antennal segment and twice as high as width of parafacial at base of antennæ. Thorax with two pairs of dorsocentrals and sometimes a weak third pair; prescutellar acrostichals absent. Fifth abdominal tergite in both sexes not half as long as fourth, in female about as long as the short ovipositor. Mid tibia with two or three posterior setulæ. Apical sections of third and fourth wing-veins subparallel, their apices about equally distant from wing tip; inner cross-vein beyond middle of discal cell; penultimate section of fourth vein from one fourth to one sixth as long as ultimate and as long as outer cross-vein; ultimate section of fifth vein over half as long as penultimate. Length, 3.5-4 mm.

Type, female, and three female paratypes, Muncie, Ill., August 15, 1917 (Frison and Malloch). Allotype, Lafayette, Ind., June 11, 1915 (J. M. Aldrich). Paratypes, 5 specimens, Lafayette, Ind., June 2, one specimen, same locality, August 7, 4 specimens, same locality, June 10-18, 1915 (J. M. Aldrich); one specimen, No. 24401, data missing, but probably from an aquatic collection made in Illinois by Mr. Hart, the accession catalogue of which is missing.

The larvae mine the stems of *Dianthera americana* along the margins of streams.

BOOK NOTES.

The one thought always with us is that the growing generation of today must fill the ranks of the entomologists of tomorrow. It is in these children that an intelligent love of nature must be fostered. As we have said before, every entomologist at one time or another is asked to suggest something likely to interest children in insects. Dr. Edith M. Patch needs no introduction to entomologists. Her new book for the youngsters "**A Little Gateway to Science**" (Atlantic Monthly Press, Boston; 90 cents) I can recommend for youngsters under ten, for I have tried it on three of mine with great success. Under the guise of fairy tales,